HRT-0010



5. The valve prosthesis according to claim 13, wherein the stent comprises at least two closed rings, each formed from more than three loops, the rings connected one to another, and wherein three of the loops in at least one of the rings has a greater height than the remaining loops.

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8. The valve prosthesis according to claim 13, wherein the cylinder surface of the support means is closed to form a tubular element.

A valve prosthesis for implantation in a body channel having an inner wall, the prosthesis comprising:

a radially collapsible and expandable cylindrical stent, the stent including a cylindrical support means having a cylinder surface; and

a collapsible and expandable valve having commissural points, the valve mounted to the stent at the commissural points, wherein the stent and valve are configured to be implanted in the body by way of catheterization.

14. The valve prosthesis of claim 13, wherein the stent includes a cylindrical support means having a cylinder surface and the valve has commissural points, and the valve is mounted to the stent at the commissural points.

Please replace the Abstract with the following paragraph:

B5

A valve prosthesis for implantation in the body by use of a catheter includes a stent made from an expandable cylinder-shaped thread structure having several spaced apices. The elastically collapsible valve is mounted on the stent as the commissural points of the valve are secured to the projecting apices.

REMARKS

John Silver

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated April 2, 2002. Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. Applicants thank the Examiner for the